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S. P. 12/21/99

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Docket No. 11770US03

In the Application of:

AINSWORTH et al.

Serial No. 09/143,503

Filed: August 28, 1998

Patent No. 5,554,121

Issued: September 10, 1996

For: INTRALUMINAL CATHETER WITH
HIGH STRENGTH PROXIMAL
SHAFT



Examiner: J. Yasko Jr.

Group Art Unit: 3763

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on December 7, 1999.

By: George Wheeler

George Wheeler
Reg. No. 28,766

**RESPONSE TO *Ex parte Quayle*
FIRST OFFICE ACTION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This paper responds to the first Office action in the present application, allowing it except for the need to surrender the original patent or account for its loss. This response is timely with the accompanying petition and fee for a one-month extension of time.

The assignee discovered that the original patent could not be found. Accordingly, a Declaration as to Loss of Letters Patent is enclosed.

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Accordingly, the applicant respectfully requests that the accompanying declaration be accepted and that the application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

By:


George Wheeler

Reg. No. 28,766

Attorney for applicant(s)

December 7, 1999

DATE

McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Ltd.
34th Floor
500 West Madison Street
Chicago, IL 60661
312/707-8889